
By: **Delegate Rudolph**
Introduced and read first time: February 16, 2001
Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Higher Education - At-Risk Students - College Completion Challenge**
3 **Grants**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing the College Completion Challenge Grant Program for
5 at-risk students; stating the purpose of the program; establishing an
6 application process for an eligible institution to receive a grant award; providing
7 for the award of a grant to an eligible institution under the program; requiring
8 an eligible institution to use a grant award for certain purposes; requiring an
9 eligible institution to ensure that a grant award supplements other
10 expenditures; requiring the Maryland Higher Education Commission to adopt
11 certain regulations; funding the grant program; requiring the Commission to
12 issue a certain report; and generally relating to the College Completion
13 Challenge Grant Program.

14 BY adding to
15 Article - Education
16 Section 17-401 through 17-409, inclusive, to be under the new subtitle "Subtitle
17 4. College Completion Challenge Grant Program"
18 Annotated Code of Maryland
19 (1999 Replacement Volume and 2000 Supplement)

20 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
21 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

22 **Article - Education**

23 **SUBTITLE 4. COLLEGE COMPLETION CHALLENGE GRANT PROGRAM.**

24 17-401.

25 (A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
26 INDICATED.

1 (B) "AT-RISK STUDENT" MEANS A STUDENT ENROLLED IN AN INSTITUTION OF
2 HIGHER EDUCATION WHO THE INSTITUTION DETERMINES IS LIKELY TO END THE
3 STUDENT'S POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION BEFORE GRADUATING.

4 (C) "ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION" MEANS A PUBLIC OR PRIVATE INSTITUTION OF
5 HIGHER EDUCATION IN THIS STATE THAT POSSESSES A CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL
6 FROM THE COMMISSION.

7 (D) "GRANT" MEANS A "COLLEGE COMPLETION CHALLENGE GRANT"
8 AWARDED TO AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION UNDER THIS SUBTITLE.

9 17-402.

10 (A) THERE IS A COLLEGE COMPLETION CHALLENGE GRANT PROGRAM
11 ADMINISTERED BY THE COMMISSION.

12 (B) THE PURPOSE OF THE GRANT PROGRAM IS TO ASSIST INSTITUTIONS OF
13 HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE STATE IN HELPING AT-RISK STUDENTS, PARTICULARLY
14 STUDENTS WHO ARE ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED, STAY IN SCHOOL AND
15 GRADUATE.

16 17-403.

17 (A) THE GRANT PROGRAM SHALL BE ADMINISTERED AS PROVIDED IN THIS
18 SUBSECTION.

19 (B) (1) (I) AN ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION MAY DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A
20 PROGRAM TO HELP AT-RISK STUDENTS, PARTICULARLY STUDENTS WHO ARE
21 ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED, STAY IN SCHOOL AND GRADUATE.

22 (II) TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR A MATCHING GRANT UNDER THIS
23 SUBSECTION, A PROGRAM DEVELOPED BY AN ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION UNDER
24 PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION SHALL PROVIDE SERVICES AND ASSISTANCE
25 TO STUDENTS AS SPECIFIED UNDER § 17-404 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

26 (2) AN ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION MAY APPLY, IN A MANNER AS REQUIRED
27 BY THE COMMISSION, TO THE COMMISSION FOR A 3-YEAR MATCHING GRANT TO
28 HELP IMPLEMENT AND EXPAND ITS GRANT PROGRAM.

29 (C) (1) (I) THE COMMISSION SHALL SELECT ON A COMPETITIVE BASIS
30 ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS TO BE AWARDED A 3-YEAR MATCHING GRANT UNDER THIS
31 SUBTITLE.

32 (II) A GRANT AWARDED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE SHALL BE FOR A
33 3-YEAR PERIOD.

34 (2) IN SELECTING ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS TO RECEIVE A 3-YEAR
35 MATCHING GRANT UNDER THIS SUBTITLE, THE COMMISSION SHALL GIVE PRIORITY
36 TO AN ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION THAT DEMONSTRATES ITS SUCCESSFUL PRIOR

1 COMMITMENT TO HELPING AT-RISK STUDENTS, PARTICULARLY STUDENTS WHO ARE
2 ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED, STAY IN SCHOOL AND GRADUATE.

3 (D) AN ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION MAY APPLY TO RENEW THE 3-YEAR MATCHING
4 GRANT UNDER THE COMPETITIVE PROCESS ESTABLISHED UNDER THIS SECTION.

5 17-404.

6 (A) AN ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION THAT RECEIVES A GRANT UNDER THIS
7 SUBTITLE SHALL USE THE GRANT TO PROVIDE SERVICES OR ASSISTANCE TO
8 AT-RISK STUDENTS BY:

9 (1) IMPLEMENTING AN INTENSIVE SUMMER PROGRAM FOR INCOMING
10 FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS;

11 (2) DEVELOPING A STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICE PROGRAM TARGETED
12 TO FIRST-YEAR AND SECOND-YEAR STUDENTS, INCLUDING:

13 (I) PEER TUTORING;

14 (II) MENTORING PROGRAMS INVOLVING FACULTY AND
15 THIRD-YEAR AND FOURTH-YEAR STUDENTS; OR

16 (III) PROGRAMS TO ASSIST A STUDENT CURRENTLY ENROLLED IN A
17 2-YEAR COURSE OF STUDY TO OBTAIN ADMISSION TO, ENROLL IN, AND OBTAIN
18 FINANCIAL AID FOR A 4-YEAR COURSE OF STUDY;

19 (3) PROVIDING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO FIRST-YEAR AND
20 SECOND-YEAR STUDENTS IN AMOUNTS APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION; OR

21 (4) PROVIDING ANY OTHER SERVICE OR ASSISTANCE APPROVED BY THE
22 COMMISSION.

23 (B) AN ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION THAT RECEIVES A GRANT UNDER THIS
24 SUBTITLE MAY USE THE GRANT TO IMPLEMENT AN INTENSIVE SUMMER PROGRAM
25 FOR AT-RISK STUDENTS ENTERING THE SECOND OR THIRD YEAR OF
26 POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION IF THE ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION DEMONSTRATES THAT:

27 (1) ITS SUMMER PROGRAM IS MEETING THE NEEDS OF FIRST-YEAR
28 STUDENTS; AND

29 (2) A SUMMER PROGRAM COULD HELP RETAIN AT-RISK SECOND-YEAR
30 OR THIRD-YEAR STUDENTS.

31 (C) AN ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION THAT RECEIVES A GRANT UNDER THIS
32 SUBTITLE MAY USE THE GRANT TO PROVIDE SERVICES OR ASSISTANCE TO AT-RISK
33 THIRD-YEAR STUDENTS IF THE ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION DEMONSTRATES THAT ITS
34 SERVICES AND ASSISTANCE ARE MEETING THE NEEDS OF ITS FIRST-YEAR AND
35 SECOND-YEAR STUDENTS.

1 17-405.

2 (A) A GRANT AWARDED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE SHALL BE IN AN AMOUNT AS
3 DETERMINED BY THE COMMISSION.

4 (B) THE STATE SHARE OF THE COST OF A PROGRAM TO HELP AT-RISK
5 STUDENTS MAY NOT EXCEED 50 PERCENT OF THE TOTAL PROGRAM COST.

6 17-406.

7 (A) AN ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION SHALL ENSURE THAT A PROGRAM TO HELP
8 AT-RISK STUDENTS THAT RECEIVES A 3-YEAR MATCHING GRANT:

9 (1) IS COORDINATED WITH AND COMPLEMENTARY TO OTHER
10 PROGRAMS OF THE ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION; AND

11 (2) DOES NOT DUPLICATE SERVICES ALREADY PROVIDED AT THE
12 ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION.

13 (B) AN ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION SHALL USE A GRANT UNDER THIS SUBTITLE
14 TO SUPPLEMENT OTHER FUNDS EXPENDED FOR EXISTING PROGRAMS.

15 17-407.

16 THE COMMISSION SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT THIS SUBTITLE.
17 17-408.

18 FUNDS FOR THE COLLEGE COMPLETION CHALLENGE GRANT PROGRAM SHALL
19 BE AS PROVIDED BY THE GOVERNOR IN THE STATE BUDGET.

20 17-409.

21 THE COMMISSION SHALL ISSUE A REPORT EVALUATING THE COLLEGE
22 COMPLETION CHALLENGE GRANT PROGRAM TO THE GOVERNOR AND, UNDER §
23 2-1246 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, BY JUNE
24 1, 2003.

25 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
26 June 1, 2001.